

**SITUATION REPORT NO. 24**  
**INCIDENT NO. 2005-075**  
**DATE: July 7, 2005 Time: 5:30 p.m.**

**TO:** Governor John Hoeven  
State Capitol  
Bismarck ND 58505

1. **NATURE OF DISASTER:** **Severe Summer Storms and Flooding** – On June 9, Governor John Hoeven issued a state emergency declaration, which he upgraded to a state disaster declaration on July 1, to address severe thunderstorms that have produced abnormal amounts of rainfall, ground saturation, hail, high winds and tornadoes throughout the state and for continued flooding in the Devils Lake Basin.
2. **DEATHS AND INJURIES:** No changes from previous reports.
3. **DAMAGES:** The Bismarck and Grand Forks Offices of the National Weather Service (NWS) indicate there is slight risk of severe thunderstorms over North Dakota. The primary threat will be damaging winds and isolated large hail with some areas receiving up to one inch of rain.

The State Operations Center (SOC) received the following reports of storm activity from local emergency managers and agricultural officials:

**Bottineau County**

On July 7, the County Emergency Manager reported at the present time Lake Metigoshe has stabilized and has dropped about one-fourth of an inch. Water is currently backing up into the city of Bottineau and ponding on the south edge of town. An aerial observation of the area on July 6 revealed there is about a four square mile area of water. A Bottineau County Water Resource Board member reported that Oak and Willow Creeks are flowing into the Souris River which is unable to handle the inflow of the water.

Local residents north of Bottineau have expressed concerns about the amount of water backing up into the creeks and river. Although water is receding in the city of Bottineau, water levels continue to rise north of town.

On July 7, local officials met and have contracted with Wold Engineering in Bottineau to assist them in identifying options for the Lake Metigoshe and Bottineau areas. Another cut on Mud Creek Road may be necessary to allow additional water to flow from the lake.

### **Renville County**

The recent heavy rainfall has caused damage to township, county and city roads. Homeowners throughout the county have damage to their homes. In the city of Glenburn at least 25 homes have water damage. City officials continue to monitor the lagoon.

### **Rolette County**

On July 6, the State Operations Center was notified by personnel from the State Water Commission that the emergency spillway at Wakopa Dam in Rolette County has several three foot deep erosion gullies. The gullies are very slowly cutting back towards the reservoir, but still have about 20 feet to go. Based on an evaluation by a representative from the State Water Commission they did not believe that there would be a breach of the dam for the evening of July 6, but was making notification to the Division of Emergency Services as a precautionary measure.

On July 7, the Bureau of Indian Affairs Dam Specialist and State Water Commission personnel evaluated the Belcourt Dam and confirmed that although the water level is high, the dam is stable and there is no immediate chance of failure. Normal rainfall that has occurred throughout the state is contributing to the rise of Belcourt Lake and additional moisture forecasted will cause minor flooding on Ox Creek. Sandbagging efforts are currently underway.

### **River Statements**

Flood warnings remain in effect for the Red River at Fargo, Drayton, East Grand Forks, Oslo and Pembina; the Souris River at Westhope, Towner and Bantry; the Willow Creek and the Wild Rice River at Abercrombie.

River forecasts from the NWS, based on current observations, are as follows:

River	Flood Stage	Last Report	Comments
Red River at Fargo	17 feet	24.47 feet @ 5:00 a.m. July 7	River trend is falling
Red River at Pembina	42 feet	45.94 feet @ 4:00 a.m. July 7	Crested, river trend is falling
Red River at Drayton	32 feet	36.37 feet @ 7:00 a.m. July 7	River trend is falling
Red River at East Grand Forks	28 feet	28.97 feet @ 6:45 a.m. July 7	River trend is falling
Red River at Oslo	28 feet	28.16 feet @ 6:15 a.m. July 7	River trend is falling
Wild Rice River at Abercrombie	10 feet	13.42 feet @ 6:45 a.m. July 7	River trend is falling
Souris River near Westhope	10 feet	13.73 feet at 7:00 a.m. July 7	River trend is rising from runoff
Souris River near Towner	52 feet	54.20 feet @ 8:00 a.m. July 6	Crest @ 54.5 feet on July 6
Souris River near Bantry	11 feet	11.08 feet @ 7:00 a.m. July 7	River trend is falling
Willow Creek near Willow City	10 feet	14.65 feet at 4:00 a.m. July 7	River trend is falling

4. **RESOURCES:**

**LOCAL:** No changes from previous reports.

**STATE:** No changes from previous reports.

**FEDERAL:** No changes from previous reports.

5. **VOLUNTEER ACTIONS:** No change from previous reports.

6. **MAJOR ACTIONS** On July 7, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Tribal Chair utilized the media to inform the public of the current flooding situation.

**Renville County**

On July 5, the Glenburn City Council signed a disaster declaration.

7. **ASSISTANCE NEEDED:** No change from previous reports.

8. **OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE:** No changes from previous reports.

9. **OTHER INFORMATION:** The N.D. Division of Homeland Security's Situation Reports are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

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Susan Reinertson, Director  
N.D. Division of Homeland Security